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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

November 14, 2012

International signing ceremony Thursday at 9 a.m at Foundation Hall



Marshall will be playing host to more than 60 members of its international recruitment team from INTO University Partnerships, hailing from more than 20 countries, beginning with a signing ceremony that will kick off the agreement. The signing will take place Thursday, Nov. 15 at 9 a.m in Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center. Members of the university community are welcome to attend.

“For many, this will be their first trip to West Virginia and we want them to receive a warm West Virginia and Marshall welcome,” said Matt Turner, Marshall’s chief of staff. “They will spend the entire day on Thursday on our Huntington campus, learning about our academic programs, touring our facilities and even meeting with Marco and shopping in the bookstore. They want to learn as much about Marshall in the short time they are here, so they can share the great things about MU when they return home.”

The agreement between Marshall University and INTO is expected to build the institution’s global profile and increase international student enrollment at the university. They have been developing the partnership for the past two years to build on Marshall’s growing international reputation and to bring greater awareness of global cultures to West Virginia’s college students and communities.

Women's Studies, Women's Center raffling quilts to help local agencies



Marshall's Women's Studies program and Women's Center are conducting a quilt raffle to support the Golden Girls Group Home, the Branches domestic violence shelter and Little Victories animal shelter.

By donating one of a list of needed items ([click for a flyer with a list](#)), persons will receive two tickets for the raffle. Items should be dropped off at Harris Hall 115 in order to receive the tickets. The drawing will take place Friday, Nov. 30.

The quilts, which will be on display in the Memorial Student Center tomorrow, were made by Marshall and Huntington community members.

For further information, e-mail [Dr. Laura Michele Diener](#) in the history department.

Electoral College subject of next Amicus Curiae presentation Nov. 29

The third lecture of the Amicus Curiae Lecture Series on Constitutional Democracy will feature Dr. George C. Edwards III, Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Texas A & M University, who will discuss the electoral college and its impact on American elections.

His presentation will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 29, in the MU Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

Edwards, a leading scholar of the presidency, has served as the Olin Professor of American Government at Oxford and the John Adams Fellow at the University of London, and has held senior visiting appointments at Peking University, University of Jerusalem and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. One of his latest books, *Why the Electoral College is Bad for America*, evaluates the consequences of our method of electing the president.

This series of five lectures began in September and will continue for the remainder of the 2012-13 academic year with lectures scheduled for February and April, 2013. The programs feature notable scholars and opinion leaders who discuss the Constitution and important matters in the nation's political process. Amicus Curiae, or Friend of the Court, is sponsored by the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy and the College of Liberal Arts, with financial support from the West Virginia Humanities Council.

The series debuted a year ago and Dr. David J. Pittenger, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said prior to the first lecture of this year's series, "We are extremely fortunate to have the support of the West Virginia Humanities Council and Simon D. Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy for this lecture series. The Amicus Curiae is a classroom to the greater Huntington community. We hope that all people who want to learn more about this great nation and its Constitution will join us for those informative and provocative lectures."

Patricia Proctor, director of the Simon Perry Center, said the excellent attendance at the series "demonstrated that both the Marshall community and the community at large are passionately interested in issues related to democracy. This year we are thrilled with both the caliber of the lectures and the relevance of the topics they will address."

The lectures are free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Proctor at ext. 6-2801.

Groundbreaking for soccer complex set for Friday, Nov. 16



Marshall University officials will conduct a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new soccer complex at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16.

The groundbreaking will take place on the Huntington campus, at an area beside the Joan C. Edwards Stadium and the M-Club Pavilion.

Work on the complex will begin the following week, with completion slated for Aug. 1, 2013.

Joining President Stephen J. Kopp, Athletic Director Mike Hamrick and others as speakers at the groundbreaking will be former Marshall and NFL quarterback Chad Pennington, co-chair of the Vision Campaign to raise \$30 million to upgrade Marshall's athletic facilities.

Graphic: Artist's rendering of the soccer complex, for which a ceremonial groundbreaking will take place Nov. 16.

Nobel Prize recipient for Physiology or Medicine to visit Marshall today

Günter Blobel, M.D., Ph.D., recipient of the 1999 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine, will visit the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Wednesday, Nov. 14. He will speak to members of the university community at 2 p.m. in the Harless Auditorium of the Marshall University Medical Center.

Dr. Blobel is recognized the world over for his research discovery that proteins have built-in signals that direct their movement in cells. His work has shed light on diseases such as cystic fibrosis and kidney stones, which have been linked to errors in the signal and transport systems.

Although the event is not open to the public, members of the university community are welcome.

Marshall geography professor invited by Oxford University to share thoughts with Atlas of the World publication



Dr. Joshua Hagen, professor of geography at Marshall, has been invited by Oxford University's Atlas of the World to share his thoughts on the relationship between geography and current events for their publication, Place of the Year 2012. Atlas is the only world atlas which is updated annually, guaranteeing that users will find the most current geographic information.

Hagen, who is co-author of *Borders: A Very Short Introduction*, commented for the publication on the geography of Europe and Syria as well as the concept of "Homeland."

Hagen noted that Europe's ongoing fiscal crisis has served to aggravate pre-existing regional and national divisions and in the process has added an array of political, cultural and linguistic challenges to the dire economic situation which is ravaging most of Europe. He explained that Spain, for example, has fallen on grim economic times as unemployment has climbed to 25 percent and the Spanish government has had to bail out banks and several regional governments, including Catalonia, Spain's largest regional economy.

"Catalans have maintained a strong regional identity, including their own language, despite recurring efforts by Spanish governments to centralize authority and suppress regionalism," Hagen wrote. He added that although recent decades have seen improved relations between Catalonia and the Spanish government, including recognition of the Catalan language and a

significant degree of autonomy, anger, and resentment from the recent economic depression have still spilled over into culture and politics causing long-standing antagonisms to flare up again.

The continuing economic crisis has also worsened similar cultural-linguistic disputes in Belgium, Italy and the United Kingdom, according to Hagen, and on a broader scale the fiscal crisis has revived long-standing stereotypes of Germans versus Greeks and Europe's Nordic countries versus the Mediterranean.

"Depending on one's perspective, Germany and Europe's North are portrayed as responsible, hard-working and frugal or stingy, bossy and arrogant. Conversely, Mediterranean Europe is viewed as lazy, corrupt and hapless or victimized, swindled and resilient," he wrote.

In discussing Syria, Hagen noted that Syria's current government is dominated by Alawites, a religious minority that comprises only about 12 percent of the total population but is a majority in the country's Mediterranean coast region.

"The forces rebelling against the Syrian government are mainly drawn from the country's dominant Sunni Arab populations," he explained. "It is impossible to predict the exact course of future events, but Syria's demographic and physical geography make it very unlikely that the government will succeed in re-establishing undisputed control over the country."

Hagen pointed out that the geography of Syria will likely be changed irreversibly, as ethnic-linguistic-religious groups sort themselves out into relatively similar enclaves and significant numbers of minority groups leave the country altogether.

He stressed that, although there have been predictions of a borderless world and an end of geography, mounting calls for economic protectionism and rising anti-immigrant sentiment would signal a rising tide of nationalism and national territoriality. In closing, Hagen noted that "Growing fears of insecurity, scarcity, and powerlessness are likely to fuel increased pressures to define and defend national homelands."

In addition, some main points of *Borders: A Very Short Introduction*, were discussed in a recent online article of *The New Yorker*. The author of the *New Yorker* article, Adam Gopnik, summarized some of the points Hagen made on page 3 of a 5-page online article titled "Faces, Places, Spaces. The Renaissance of Geographic History" in the section, "A Critic At Large." Gopnik wrote, in part:

"Another version of space history is available these days, though. This might be called the cartographic turn, and is characterized by the argument that, while geography matters, it is visible only through the maps that we make of it. Where borders fall is as much a matter of how things are seen as how they really are. We can know the shape of the planet only through maps—maps in the ordinary glove-compartment sense, maps in a broader metaphoric one—and those maps are made by minds attuned to the relations of power. All nations are shaped by belligerence and slaughter. Their borders are a fretwork of scars; they are the history of violence made legible on earth. A new field of "border studies" has grown up around this insight, with its own journals and its own institutions: there's a much respected *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, and there are

institutes of border studies at several European universities. The newly published “Borders: A Very Short Introduction” (Oxford), by Alexander C. Diener and Joshua Hagen, makes an excellent and, well, very short introduction to the subject.”

New section of Paul Ambrose Trail for Health opens

The St. Cloud Commons portion of the Paul Ambrose Trail for Health (PATH), officially opened yesterday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Paul Ambrose Trail for Health (PATH) is a growing bicycle and pedestrian trail system providing free, healthful recreational opportunities for the City of Huntington and surrounding areas. Through grants, fundraising, sponsorships and individual contributions, more than \$2.5 million has been raised to support the construction and maintenance of the PATH. Construction projects begin as funding is released, and currently seven miles are completed and used daily.

PATH is named after Dr. Paul Ambrose, a graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, and a promising young physician whose life ended September 11, 2001 when terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon. Ambrose focused his medical career on family health and using preventative medicine to fight obesity, and the trail system is a way to continue his medial legacy and affect the health of people in the Huntington are.

University Chorus to sing ‘The Fountain’ by Evan Mack at memorial service Nov. 14

Marshall University’s Chorus will be performing a special piece written specifically for Marshall at the 2012 memorial service for victims of the 1970 plane crash. Performing with the chorus will be Dr. Evan Mack, who composed the work.

Mack, a composer, pianist and member of the faculties of Skidmore College and the College of St. Rose, was an artist-in-residence in 2009, giving master classes and concerts.

“The Fountain” is a work that Evan Mack composed for Marshall students, according to Robert Wray, director of the University Chorus. It was premiered by the Marshall University Chorus last spring.

The memorial service, an annual observance to honor the 75 persons who lost their lives in the 1970 plane crash, will take place this year at noon Wednesday, Nov. 14, on the Memorial Student Center plaza.

Mack says he found inspiration for the piece in a poem written by 19th Century poet James Russell Lowell, also called “The Fountain.”

“Musically it was quite freeing to set the text where the music symbolizes the continuing of life, flowing into each generation,” Mack said. “This made it a perfect fit to connect the piece to the Marshall community, rather than just the fountain. The piece is meant to connect students past and present, just like the water circulated through the fountain. This ceremony gives a special connection to students of all generations, something that most colleges and universities can’t claim.”

“I was asked to write a new piece, as both the University Chorus and the Chamber Choir were doing a joint concert featuring my music in spring 2012,” Mack said. “Having worked with the choirs before, I knew how well they could sing. It took a long time to find the right text; then I found the poem by James Russell Lowell.”

Along with premiering “The Fountain,” the University Chorus has also premiered Mack’s “Langston Hughes’ Dream of Freedom,” and two of Mack’s other pieces. The Chamber Choir premiered his piece “Of Fire and Form.”

Mack said his hope for the piece is that it would be something special for the students to premiere a work that was written for them, and that he hopes future choirs can sing this work and feel connected.

In addition to performing with the chorus, Mack will be meeting with students and rehearsing with them while he is at Marshall.

“I am honored that my piece will be sung at this year’s ceremony,” Mack said. “I am even more excited that I will be playing piano with the chorus at the memorial.”

United Way campaign gets under way this week



**United Way
of the River Cities**

The 2012 United Way of the River Cities workplace campaign is now under way with pledges and contributions being accepted through Friday, Nov. 16.

Pledge forms have been sent to mailboxes and MU staff can also contribute through payroll deductions, according to Jaye Ike, chair

of this year's campaign. "It doesn't take much; \$1.00 per paycheck can change a life," she said. "Your contribution to United Way reaches many people in many counties in our area. And your dollars stay here."

Marshall's workplace goal this year is \$35,000.

United Way of the River Cities supports programs and strategies that address problems in this region. Thirty percent of the money assures that individuals and families in crisis have food, clothing, safe shelter and medications and 70 percent helps fund programs that are creating long-term solutions to critical issues such as substance abuse and the dropout problem, along with other life issues.

Online donations can be made at <http://www.marshall.edu/unitedway>. For more information or if there are questions, contact Ike at jaye.ike@marshall.edu.

University receives \$721,000 gift for mechanical engineering professorship

Marshall University has received a \$721,000 bequest from the estate of Huntington businessman J. Robert "Bob" Fletcher to fund the engineering professorship bearing his name. The donation is expected to be matched through the state's "Bucks for Brains" West Virginia Research Trust Fund for a total benefit to the university of more than \$1.4 million.

The J. Robert Fletcher Professorship for Engineering will support an endowed faculty position in mechanical engineering at Marshall. The Fletcher family established the endowment in 2010 with a gift of \$125,000, which was matched by the trust fund at that time.

Fletcher, who died in May 2009, moved to Huntington in 1947 with the family business. Along with his father and brother, he designed underground roof support systems for coal and limestone mines and built a manufacturing plant in Huntington. Today, J.H. Fletcher & Co. is one of the world's premier manufacturers of underground roof support systems.

Fletcher's daughter, Sally Fletcher Duncan, said, "My parents Bob and Kae Fletcher always felt that an education was of the utmost importance for a young person to achieve success in life. We hope this bequest will help many deserving Marshall students graduate from college and become successful and contributing members of our society."

President Stephen J. Kopp praised the Fletcher family for their dedication to the university and the community.

“This gift will continue the tradition of J. H. Fletcher & Co.’s leadership in supporting engineering at Marshall University and will carry on Bob Fletcher’s legacy as a leader in catalyzing economic development in this region,” Kopp said. “Marshall University owes a debt of gratitude to the Fletchers for their generosity and foresight in establishing this endowed professorship.”

The state Legislature created the West Virginia Research Trust Fund in 2008 with an initial appropriation of \$15 million for Marshall. The university can tap into this fund to double private gifts that support specific research initiatives linked to economic development, health care and job growth.

Disability Awareness Workshop to take place Dec. 4

A Disability Awareness Workshop for the university community will be conducted on from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, in Drinko Library, Room 402. The program is divided into two segments:

- Part 1: Disability Etiquette aims to increase work productivity and effectiveness through improved awareness of human disabilities and increased levels of comfort in working with diverse groups of people. Presenter: Teresa McCourt, a specialist with West Virginia University’s Center for Excellence in Disabilities. Her training and experience provide her with insight and skill sets in working with and providing services to individuals with disabilities, as well as in employment factors relating to people with disabilities.
- Part 2: Understanding The Autism Spectrum assists participants in recognizing and understanding the commonalities and differences that exist between conditions within the autism spectrum. Presenter: Marc Ellison, a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and an Approved Licensed Professional Supervisor (ALPS), is the Associate Director of Training for the WV Autism Training Center and a part-time instructor of Counseling and Education at MU. He has 27 years of experience supporting individuals who live with autism and their families.

Part 1 will be presented from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. and Part 2 from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. Attendees may participate in either or both segments.

Complete course information and registration are available at
<http://www.marshall.edu/human-resources/training/training-schedule/>.

Career Services hosting fall career webinar series

Marshall University Career Services is hosting a career webinar series for students, with important information on how to prepare themselves for life after college. The series features career authors and experts who share their knowledge on interviewing, life planning, job search, networking and much more.

“We want to provide as much information as possible to help our students develop the professional skills they need to be successful,” said Debby Stoler, assistant director of development and outreach in Career Services. “This series of one-hour seminars is given by experts and experienced professionals and covers a variety of topics that can give students the tools they need to be competitive as they step into the world.”

The webinars will take place from 3 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and will run through Dec. 12 at the Career Services office. For detailed information on each webinar, visit the Career Services webpage and click on “Events.” Students can also register online to watch them from home at <http://talentmarks.com/webinar.aspx>.

Poets to read their works tonight

Poets Neil Carpathios and Crystal Good will read from their work at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, in the Birke Art Gallery. Their appearance is part of the A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series.

Carpathios is the author of three full-length poetry collections: *Playground of Flesh*, *At the Axis of Imponderables*, and *Beyond the Bones*. He also writes for the column “Let’s Talk Poetry” in *The Portsmouth Daily Times*, devoted to showcasing work by local poets in the Southern Ohio region. The recipient of fellowships and grants from the Ohio Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts, Carpathios teaches and is Coordinator of Creative Writing at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Good is a part of the “Affrilachian” (African-American-Appalachian) poetry movement and the author of the collection *Valley Girl*. Her poems explore themes in quantum physics, Appalachian culture, gender equality and mountaintop removal. Good is the founding member of OneKanawha, a diversity and anti-racism advocacy group. In 2005, she was honored by Gov. Joe Manchin as a West Virginia Innovative Artist. Currently, she serves as the Director of Brand Experience at Mythology LLC.

The reading is free and open to the public, and a book-signing will follow.

For more information, contact Dr. Rachael Peckham in the department of English at ext.6-3649.

Marshall Recreation Center to host 'Kids' Night Out'

The Marshall Recreation Center will host a special night out for kids from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30. The program is available to parents who would like some time to themselves to shop, see a movie, or get some things done around the house.

The children will be entertained in a fun, safe environment. They will climb on the Rec Center's rock wall, swim in the indoor pool, play ball on the courts and have a pizza party with their new friends.

Children ages 4-12 are welcome. The deadline to register is Thursday, Nov. 29. Parents are asked to register their children in advance, as space is limited. The cost for members is \$15 (\$10 for each additional sibling), and the cost for non-members is \$20 (\$15 for each additional sibling).

Cash or checks made out to the Campus Rec Club will be accepted.

Forms and waivers for this event can be found on www.marshallcampusrec.com. Parents are asked to return the forms to the Marshall Recreation Center Welcome Desk or mail them to: Marshall Recreation Center, attn. Dan Belcher.

For more information, call Belcher, facility operations coordinator, at ext.6-4651.

The next issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed Nov. 28, 2012. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by noon, Nov. 26.